

M3: Technical Work Programs for Mineral Lease applications

Key objectives of the reform

Through consequential amendments to the Mineral Titles Act 2010, applications for the grant or renewal of a mineral lease will now need to include a detailed technical work program rather than a summary of the work proposed. The technical work program will ensure that the Minister can be satisfied that:

- The company seeking a mineral lease has a bona fide proposal outlining how they intend to conduct authorised activities under the mineral lease;
- The proposed expenditure for carrying out the technical work is adequate;
- The applicant has the technical and financial resources available for carrying out the technical work;
- The applicant has, or will meet, conditions or requirements under the Mineral Titles Act 2010.

The technical work program may include:

- Geological, geochemical or geophysical surveys;
- The assessment of a mineral resource or extractive mineral resource and the work required to develop the resource;
- Work to assess the feasibility of mining;
- Other work in connection with mining of minerals or extractive minerals.

Regulation reform summary

Key differences between the proposed mining and environmental reforms from current arrangements are:

Current Arrangements	Proposed Arrangements
The MTA currently requires the provision of a summary of the work proposed to be carried out for conducting authorised activities under a mineral lease. Technical work programs are currently only required for exploration and extractive operations.	The amendments will introduce a requirement to provide a technical work program for the grant of a mineral lease.

Benefits

These consequential amendments will ensure that technical work programs are provided early in the application process for all mineral titles so that the Minister can be satisfied that the applicant has an appropriate resource development plan. There will be further consultation with industry on the technical work plans.

Further information

A number of fact sheets have also been developed addressing different aspects of the mining and environmental reforms. These are available on the [Department of Environment, Parks and Water Security website](#)